

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed May 9, 2005, the applicant elects the group 1 invention, including claims 1-39 and 78, without traverse. It should be understood that the elected invention does not contemplate merely coating; rather, the process steps use the word "applying", and with reference to pages 20 and 60 of the application applying contemplates impregnating the substrate as well as coating a surface.

Claims 40-77 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as being drawn to a non-elected invention. New claims 78-100 have been added. Claims 78-100 are directed to the group 1 invention.

With respect to the election of species invention, the applicants elect "c" type of substrate. As acknowledged by the Examiner, claims 1 and 39 are generic claims covering all species. In addition, with respect to the elected group, claims 2-9, 23, 30, 33, 34, 35, and 78, and new claims 79-100 would also be generic to all species. As identified by the Examiner, within the elected group 1, some of the claims that specifically read on the elected species include 11-16, 19-21, 24-26, and 28-29; however, claims 17-18 relate to the substrate material and should also be considered. Thus, claims 1-9, 11-16, 19-21, 23-26, 28-30, 33-35, and 78-100 should be examined in response to this election, and dependent claims should be rejoined upon allowance of a based independent claim.

In view of the above election of invention and election of species, please proceed to examination on the merits.

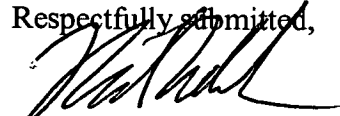
Concurrently submitted with this response are revocation of power of attorney papers and appointment of attorney papers with a new correspondence address. Please direct the next action on the merits to the undersigned at the address given below.

Also, concurrently filed with this response is an assignment which assigns the application jointly to Gaston International, LLC and Tintoria Piana U.S..

If any extensions of time are required to gain entry of this response, provisional petition therefore is hereby made. If any fees are required to enter this response or to gain entry of any other accompanying paper, the Commissioner is

authorized to charge attorney's deposit account 50-2041 (Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson).

Respectfully submitted,



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